

P23907.A01



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jeffrey BRANDT et al.

Group Art Unit: 2122

Appln. No.: 10/669,438

Examiner: unknown

Filed: September 25, 2003

For: DTMF LOCKOUT UTILITY USING EPOCH TIME STAMP

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98, Applicant calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 6,556,659 to BOWMAN-AMUAH, which issued on April 29, 2003;

U.S. Patent No. 6,424,711 to BAYLESS et al., which issued on July 23, 2002;

U.S. Patent No. 6,424,704 to LEE, which issued on July 23, 2002;

U.S. Patent No. 6,195,697 to BOWMAN-AMUAH, which issued on February 27, 2001;

U.S. Patent No. 6,112,085 to GARNER et al., which issued on August 29, 2000;

U.S. Patent No. 5,867,495 to ELLIOTT et al., which issued on February 2, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,852,659 to WELTER, JR., which issued on December 22, 1998;

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0048738 to BANIAK et al., which published on December 6, 2001; and

P23907.A01

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0085696 to MARTIN et al., which published on July 4, 2002.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(I), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above documents. Copies of the above-noted documents have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

As noted in the Background of the Invention, Applicants are also aware of a system that may be relevant to the present invention. A short description of that system follows:

Currently, a method used in administrative update processing relies on a Call Processing Record (CPR) residing on a Telcordia ISCP (integrated service control point). The logic examines the values of an "inuse" flag, along with the time and date that flag was last updated and a number of time-out minutes, to determine whether a CPR is in use. If the "inuse" flag is set to YES and the timer has not expired, callers will not be allowed to access the data until the current caller has finished updating the CPR or the timer expires. If the number of time-out minutes have expired since the flag was last updated, then the flag is cleared (inuse=NO); the

P23907.A01

time and date are reset to the current time and date; and the return value indicates that the service logic should proceed as if the inuse flag had not been set.

The logic determines if the time-out duration has expired by comparing the current Gregorian date with the last DTMF (dual tone multifrequency) update Gregorian date and subtracting the current time from the (last update time + the max lockout period). Problems arise if DTMF updates occur when the lockout period falls into the next day, i.e., just before midnight. When this happens, special logic determines if the call is, in fact, locked from DTMF update. The logic does not account for daylight savings time.

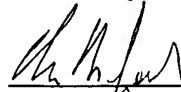
Applicants note that an Office Action on the Merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials. However, if an Office Action on the Merits has issued, and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

January 14, 2004
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Respectfully submitted,
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Reg. No. 410,047



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027



Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P23907Serial No.
10/669,438

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Jeffrey BRANDT et al.Filing Date
September 25, 2003Group
2122

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | | | | | | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|------|----------|----------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 04/29/03 | BOWMAN-AMUAH | | |
| | | 6 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 07/23/02 | BAYLESS et al. | | |
| | | 6 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 07/23/02 | LEE | | |
| | | 6 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 02/27/01 | BOWMAN-AMUAH | | |
| | | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 08/29/00 | GARNER et al. | | |
| | | 5 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 02/02/99 | ELLIOTT et al. | | |
| | | 5 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 12/22/98 | WELTER, JR. | | |
| | 2001 | / 0 | 0 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 12/06/01 | BANIAK et al. | | |
| | 2002 | / 0 | 0 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 07/04/02 | MARTIN et al. | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | | | | | | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.